Docket No. 116741-00214

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Jose Tamez-Pena

Serial No: 10/716,934 Filed: November 20, 2003

Confirmation No. 6792 Examiner: UNASSIGNED For: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR AUTOMATIC EXTRACTION OF LOAD-BEARING

GAU: 3737

REGIONS OF THE CARTILAGE AND MEASUREMENT OF BIOMARKERS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicant(s) wish to disclose the following information.

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The applicant(s) wish to make of record the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed references are attached, where required, as are either statements of relevancy or any readily available English translations of pertinent portions of any non-English language references. A check is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p).

RELATED CASES

Attached is a copy of applicant's pending application(s) or issued patent(s) which may be related to the present application. These documents are listed on form PTO-1449, also attached. A check is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p).

CERTIFICATION

Each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited for the first time in any communication from a foreign patent office in any counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

П No item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited for the first time in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the undersigned, having made reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

П This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of the subject patent application.

M This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits.

PETITION

Applicant(s) hereby request consideration of the attached information. A check is attached in the amount of the Petition fee required under 37 CFR §1.17(i)(1).

DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

Please charge any additional fees for the papers being filed herewith and for which no check is enclosed herewith, or credit any overpayment to deposit account number 23-2185. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

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Date: March 16, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

Michael C. Greenbaum Attorney of Record

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PTO/SB/08a Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

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Sheet

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

of 1

Complete if Known			
Application Number	10/716,934		
Filing Date	November 20, 2003		
First Named Inventor	Jose Tamez-Pena, et al.		
Art Unit	3737		
Examiner Name	Unassigned		
Attorney Docket Number	116741-00214		

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Document Number Number-Kind Code ^{2 (if known)}	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		US-4,907,156	March 6, 1990	Doi, et al.	
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner	Examiner Cite Initials* No.1	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
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Examiner	Date	
Signature	Considered	

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of **USPTO Patent** Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. including on the SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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